ADVOCATES

FOR

Murther and Rebellion,

The PEST of

GOVERNMENT:

Being an ANSWER to Two Trasonable

LIBELS,

Lately Publish'd; One,

In Defence of the Murther of King Charles I.

And the other,

Reasons for the Abrogating the Fast of that Day.

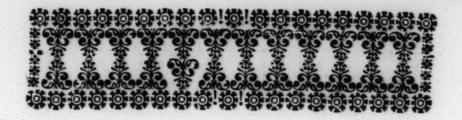
Necessary to be read by all that love Old England.

LONDON

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GOVERNMENT, &c.



HE execrable and unprecedented Murther of King Charles I. has laid fuch deep and broad Foundations for Rebellion, that our mild and wholfome Laws have hither-

to been hardly able to keep under, much less to extirpate wholly this growing Evil. Ever since that fatal Epoch of Anarchy, it has been the Business of a certain busy Sett of Men to transmit the poisonous Principles from Father to Son, and to settle them by (what they are, in other Cases, no great Friends to) Hereditary-Right; who, by black ning the Conduct

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of that innocent Prince, and the Management of his Ministry, endeavour to extenuate the Parricide of his Butchers. ly, the Difference between these Solicitors for Treason, and their Principals the Actors of it, is this; That the one defend in cold Blood, what the others perpetrated in hot: What the one did, was the Result of Rage, blind Zeal, and fudden Passion; what the others would attempt, is the Effect of premeditated and long-designed Malice: The one were so furiously hurried on, that they had no time for Reflexion; the others are deliberate, and could act it without any Fear or Remorfe. The folemn Anniversary Humiliation on that Day, is, and has ever been a great Eye-fore to that Party; and the hearty Dislike they bear to the Fast, is a demonstrative Argument, how superficial and indifferent an one they have for the Occasion. Else no Jewish Pharisee can outdo them at that Exercise: Their great Master Satan has the Ambition of being serv'd by his Votaries after the same Way as GOD Himself; and the History of those Times will convince the Reader, that as some Devils go not out, so others come not in without Prayer and Fasting. Their Murmuring against that Day hath, indeed, been for some time confin'd to Corners and private Conversation, hiding themselves under the Darkness, where such Deeds are wont

wont first to be hatch'd; and their Clubs, out of Fear rather than Modesty, have been more talk'd of than feen. But the Flame of Sedition can't always be smother'd: It must out. The Party have thrown off the Mask, and display'd their true Colours; having dispatch'd one of their Pioneers to level the Way by an audacious Libel, propoling Reasons for the Abrogating the 30th of January. One of his Reasons, and that which he feems chiefly to fence and palliate his hellish Designs with, is a specious Pretence of reconciling our unhappy Divifions. His Crew will (no doubt) applaud the Project; and the honest Royal Party will as much abhor it: And how Pleasing one fide, and Difobliging the other, can unite both, is a downright Paradox. But these canting Sycophants deal ever with Contradictions, giving good Words with their Mouth, while they curse with their Heart; and blowing up the Fire most, when they pretend to blow it out. If the Condemning a King to die by a Mock-Court, representing the rebellious, schismatical prevailing Rabble, and Scum of a Nation; and the Murthering of Him openly, be a Sin; If the Guilt and Consequences of fuch a Sin deserve to be aton'd by a continued publick Penance: Then, what Opinion must we entertain of fuch Creatures. who can be scandaliz'd at such an Act of Piety?

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Piety? Upon what Terms can we shake hands with those, who brandish theirs against their Sovereign? What Merit can they claim? What fignal Returns can be expected from those Miscreants, for whose fake fuch a religious Duty, as that of deprecating GOD's Vengeance in behalf of a finful Nation, must be suspended? Why should they not much rather reconcile themfelves to, and join with us, in so reasonable a Service, than we with them, in their Connivance at Rebellion, by the Omission of it., Ay, but, replies their Proxy, the Church-Ministers in the Pulpits inveigh against Rebellion and Schism, and by their noisy Sermons awaken and alarum the fleepy Consciences of their harmless diffenting Bre-Is then Rebellion less a Sin, because more abetted and practifed? And if Rebellion be a Sin, must not the People be warn'd against Schism, which did once, and therefore may again usher it in? Does then that weak, nice, squeamish Tribe, own fo much Guilt, as not to be able to hear those Words without being galled? We may in time be brought, because they have them not in their Catalogue of Sins, to have them expunged out of our Litany; especially, if it be made out that Talking and Praying against Schism and Rebellion is meddling with the State; and then our Libeller may infert a Clause in the intended Proposal,

Proposal, against Clergymens meddling with State-Affairs, to rank them henceforwards among Heroical Vertues. He would fain, by an Abrogation of the Day, bury that Deed in eternal Oblivion: And, how loth soever he may be to own it, may have this Reason; That if ever he and his Accomplices should be disposed to act such a Tragedy over again, they may stand forth, not as Copies, but Originals. I will not here aim at any particular Answer, which none is fo fit to give him, and his feditious Libel, as the publick Magistrate. I'll only affure him, that 'tis as much out of his Power to make England forget that Deed, as to make January shorter by that Day; which, as long as the revolving Years and Months shall bring about, so often will the horrid Remembrance of the Action and Actors, which have stigmatiz'd it, offer itfelf; till at last, in the great Day of Account, it will stare in their Faces, and (unless they timely repent) fill them with Confusion. Let neither him nor his Fel-- Jows flatter themselves; Guilt is much more quickly contracted than worn out; the Blood of a King easier spilt than wash'd away; and the Cry of it fooner raifed than laid. Let him not rely too confidently on his worthless Numbers, and insult over honest Royalists as few and inconsiderable. The British Spirit of Liberty, which could not brook an exorbitant Prerogative in Kings, can never be rid by the Licentious-ness of a base Mob; and will, in Opposition to these Commonwealth-Brokers, stand in Desence of the lawful Rights of the Crown, as they have ever done in the

Affertion of their just Privileges.

Here I had delign'd to close my short Discourse, when I was surprized with a Paper, call'd King Charles's Case, intended to have been deliver'd in at the Bar, if the King had pleaded to his Charge, &c. by John Cook, fraught with fo much Malice and canting Impudence, that none but the Devil, or one posses'd by him, could indite it. And the Villain, after having stabb'd the King's Honour with Invectives keener than the Ax which cut off his Head, prefumes to bless GOD for his Want of Fear in his . monstrous Undertaking, to trust his heavenly Father with the Success, and rejoice in Christ in the Testimony of a good Conscience. This Pitch is beyond what Lucifer himself can arrive at; He believes, and trembles: But these Sons of his can defy Heaven with an undaunted Courage, dare challenge Thunder and Vengeance without the least Dread upon them! Which Instance confirms me in what I remember to have heard a Great Man observe, That the Sin of Rebellion, like that against the Holy Ghost, is hardly ever repented of. The Publication of this

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this Libel feiz'd me with more than ordinary Horror, and made the Villany of the other I have reflected on, appear even tolerable (if I may use the Word in these Sins of the first Magnitude) and moderate, in comparison of it. The Substance of that other is, what has been frequently hinted at, and fometimes vented in private Discourses. Many have pick'd Quarrels with the Mismanagement of King Charles I.'s Reign, and his Easiness in being influenced and led by defigning Machiavels, Volpone's, and Janus's; Vermin, which very few Reigns and Courts have been free But I have never yet met with any of that virulent Faction, who in the least approved, or at least own'd he approv'd of the Murther of King Charles I. tho' feveral have since, and do still affirm, that the good People may, when they think fit, depose their lawful Sovereign, as in the Cafe of one of his Successors. I take it for granted, that the Publisher of this Libel consents entirely to what is therein contained; elle, 'tis not to be imagined, he would have cram'd his Reader with fuch a fulfome Bolus of Poison without some fort of Antidote, some Apology to prepare him for the Draught. The Memoirs of Scotland, wherein Revolution-Principles and Revolutioners are painted in fuch ugly Colours, were not exposed to open View without out a Preface (how poor and infignificant foever) to prejudice Men against what was presented them in that Book. But this Traytor fets his out unguarded, with a downright Intent of Infection, feeming to triumph and glory in his Shame, as may eafily be understood by his Title Page; at the Bottom of which you read, Printed for J. H. a Friend to legal Monarchy, but an Enemy to Monarchical Tyranny, in the glorious Tear 1714. The Construction I make of these new Anglicisms is this, (as by the Book itself appears most plainly) that by legal Monarchy, he means a Commonwealth; and by Monarchical Tyranny, any Government which is subject to one King: And, consequently, I doubt not, but that if any English Monarch should offer at copying after King Charles I. he is ready (by the Power of his Mob, whose Tyranny he dares not in conscience resist) to strike the glorious Blow, nay, even in this glorius Year, if any thing fell out which did not agree with his Constitution. Indeed, what he means by the diftinguishing Character of Glorious, bestow'd on the Year 1714, and by what occult Pythagorean Search into its constituent Numbers, this Adept in Rebellion has found it out, I am neither able nor at leifure to decypher. Much good may it do him with his Secret, the Discovery of which I envy him not. For my part, I

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can find no more Glory in 1714, than in 1701, or in 1688, the Year of that great Revolution, upon the Bottom of which the Succession of 1714 is entirely grounded. Yet, upon second Thoughts, by making Reflexion upon the Libel, I need no extraordinary Clew to find out his monstrous Meaning; which is plainly this: This Year, 1714, he has a particular Reafon to call Glorious for himself, in which he durst publish what would not be suffer'd to fee the Light, fince the Execution of what is therein justified. Such matchless Attempts are sufficient to fix an indelible Blot of Infamy upon any Year, or rather Century; for GOD forbid fuch unnatural Productions should sprout out every Year. Hell must be long breeding, e'er it be deliver'd of one grand Rebel. The 15th Century might be styl'd Glorius, in this Man's Language, or in a more proper one Famous, for the Affaffination of Kings; the 16th, for the formal Condemnation and Beheading of one; and the 17th, for justifying what in the two preceding had been acted. 'Tis sometimes the Way of Providence to punish Sin with Sin, especially when it is very finful. And who can tell, but that the Remisness in restraining the late bold Herefy against the Son of GOD, is punished by Invasions against His Vicegerents; so that the Breaking in upon the State, B 2

State, is but the Sequel of the same being done upon the Church. Therefore, fince GOD in His Anger thinks fit to exert His Vengeance, by letting (as it were) Hell with its Agents loofe upon this poor diftracted Nation, I humbly conceive there is a much greater Reason for continuing our Fasts and Humiliations than retrenching them. When our Presses are made the Tools of Sedition, and every puny Scribler boldly dares pass his doughty Judgment upon Church and State, even in things determin'd by the lawful, wife, and publick Authority of the Nation, it would be then high time to stop that Flood, and incapacitate (without an invidious Restraint upon the whole Body of the Clergy, which a late Libeller has done) every private Man from intermeddling fo far with Affairs of State, as to assume to himself the prescribing Rules to the Great Council of the Kingdom, and addressing his treacherous Conceptions to the very Legislature, whose Business it is to punish them.

Having premised thus much, I think the pious and unprejudiced Reader can't be recommended to a more solid Confutation of all the little trisling Evasions, which these Sons of Corah, with their utmost Artifice, can coin against the Observation of that Day, than the careful Perusal of the Service, by publick Autho-

rity appointed to be used upon the same. And, therefore, I shall here subjoin, for his farther Information and Improvement, an Extract of some Prayers from the first Edition of that Service, order'd to be printed Jan. 7, 1661. half a Year after that most glorious Restoration, to which all our succeeding Monarchs owe the Crowns they wear, and all true loyal Subjects the free Enjoyment of their Estates as well as Religion.

The Reason of the Fasting and Humiliation is declar'd in the Title Page, in these Words:

To implore the Mercy of GOD, That neither the Guilt of that Sacred and Innocent Blood, nor those other Sins by which GOD was provoked to deliver up both us and our KING into the Hands of cruel and unreasonable Men, may at any time hereafter be visited upon us or our Posterity.

The proper Psalms are, 7, 9, 10, 11, for the Morning; the 38, 64, 143, for the Evening Service.

The Lessons, 2 Sam. i. and Matth. xxvii.

for the Morning.

Jer. xli. or Dan. ix. to the 22d ver. and Heb. xi. ver. 32. to ver. 7. of the 12th chap. for the Evening.

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The Epistle, 1 S. Pet. ii. ver. 13. to ver. 23d. Gospel, S. Matth. xxi. ver. 33. to ver. 42d.

The particular Collects.

Judgments, and wonderful in Thy Doings towards the Children of Men; who, in Thy heavy Displeasure, didst suffer this Day that execrable Thing to be done among us, which we cannot mention without Horror! nor remember without Astonishment! We Thy poor sinful Creatures, with dejected Looks, and bleeding Hearts, humbly confess, in the behalf of all the People of this wretched Land, that our crying Sins have been the Cause that the Crown thus sell from our Head, and an innocent King was given up to the Rage of cruel and bloody Men.

But, O gracious GOD, when Thou makest Inquisition for Blood, lay not the Guilt of this Blood, (the Shedding of which, nothing but the Blood of Thy Son can expiate) lay it not to the Charge of this sinful Nation. Be merciful, be merciful unto Thy People, whom Thou hast redeemed, and be not angry with us for ever. Pardon, we beseech Thee, the Sins of us all, of those who were consenting to the Shedding of that Blood, and of those who were any way wanting to their Duty in preser-

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ving it. And mercifully grant it may never be required of us, or our Posterity; and that for the precious Blood-shed of Thy dear Son, our Blessed Saviour Jesus Cnrist. Amen.

Leffed Lord, in whose Sight the Death of Thy Saints is most precious, we magnify Thy Name for that wonderful Measure of Grace bestowed on our late Martyred Sovereign, by which he was enabled fo chearfully to follow the Steps of His Bleffed Mafter and Saviour, in a constant, meek Suffering of all barbarous Indignities, and at last relisting unto Blood, and even then, according to the same Pattern, praying for his Murtherers: Let his Memory, O Lord, be ever bleffed among us, and his Example powerful to work upon us, that we may follow him, as he followed Christ. And we beseech Thee, let not his Blood outcry those his Prayers, but, as we are all in fome measure guilty of the one, fo let us all obtain the Benefit of the other. And grant that our Land may be secured from the Vengeance of that Blood, and Thy Mercy glorified in the Forgiveness of so great a Sin; and all for Jesus Christ his sake. Amen.

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Lord our heavenly Father, who dolt not punish us as our Sins have deferved, but hast in the midst of Judgment remembred Mercy: We acknowledge it Thy special Favour, that though for our many and great Provocations Thou didst fuffer our Martyred King to be taken away, as upon this Day, by wicked Hands of violent and Blood-thirsty Men, yet Thou didst not leave us as Sheep without a Shepherd, but didst immediately invest our most gracious Sovereign King CHARLES the Second, with Sacred and Royal Authority; and, by Thy gracious Providence, didst miraculously preserve him from his bloody Enemies, hiding him under the Shadow of Thy Wings, until their Tyranny was over-past, and in Thy good Time bringing him back, and fettling him in Peace upon the Throne of his Father, to exercise that Authority over us, which of Thy special Grace Thou hadst committed unto him. For these Thy great and unspeakable Mercies, we render Thee most humble Thanks from the Bottom of our Hearts, befeeching Thee still to continue Thy gracious Protection over him, and to grant him a long and happy Reign over us. So we that be Thy People, will give Thee Thanks for ever, and will alway

be shewing forth Thy Praise from Generation to Generation, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Lord GOD, who, out of Thine infinite Mercy and Goodness, hast brought back the Captivity of Sion, and in good part restored this late afflicted Church, perfect, we befeech Thee, this Thy great Deliverance. Hedge it about with Thy continual Protection, with the Custody of Angels, with the Patronage of Kings and Princes, with the Hearts and Hands of Nobles, with the Defence of the whole fecular Arm, and with the Affections of all good People. Reunite all our remaining Divisions, reconcile our Differences, and change all our Spirits into a fweet Christian Temper of Gentleness and Peace, that with one Heart and Voice we may ferve and praise Thee in Thy holy Church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Defed Lord GOD, who by Thy Wisdom guidest and orderest all Things most suitably to Thy Justice, and performest Thy Pleasure always in such manner, that Thou canst also appeal to us, whether Thy Ways be not equal: We Thy poor wretched People fall down before

fore Thee, acknowledging the Justice of Thy Proceedings with us, and that the amazing Judgment which this Day befel us, (in permitting cruel Men, Sons of Belial, to execute the Fury of their Rebellion upon our late gracious Sovereign, and to imbrew their Hands in the Blood of the Lord's Anointed) was drawn down by the great and long Provocations of the Sins of this Nation against Thee. For all which we, finful Wretches, here met together, defire to humble ourselves before Thee, imploring Thy Mercy for the Pardon of them all; and that Thou wouldst deliver this Nation from Blood-guiltiness, that of this Day especially: And turn from us, and our Posterity, all those Judgments which we deserved. This we beg, for the All-sufficient Merits of Thy Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

B Lessed GOD, just and powerful, that didst, as upon this Day, give up Thy dear Servant, and our late dread Sovereign, to the violent Outrages of wicked Men, to be despightfully used, and at length murthered by them, which tho we could not then behold without the greatest Astonishment, nor this Day call to mind without Horror, yet do we most gratefully remember the Glories of Thy Grace,

Grace, which then shined forth in Thine Anointed, and how Thou wast pleased to own him in the midst of his Enemies, and in the Hour of Death, and to endue him with fuch eminent Patience, Meekness, and Charity, according to the Example of Thine own Son, exposed to the Fury of his Enemies. And albeit Thou didst suffer those wicked and cruel Men to proceed to fo high a Pitch of Violence against our late Sovereign, as to kill, and take Possesfion of his Throne, yet didst Thou in great Mercy preserve his Son, whose Right it was, and whom at length, in wonderful Providence, Thou hast brought back, and fet on his Father's Throne; for which we glorify Thy Name, through Jesus Christ our Bleffed Saviour. Amen.

Thus I have, as becomes all good Subjects, declared my hearty Resentment of, and Protestation against the villanous Designs of these Blood-hounds and Cut-throats, the Spawn of this latter degenerate Age: The hellish Practices of whom, as the former Generations of the World were unacquainted with, so all Languages want Words to express them by. May (if these Pests of Mankind persist to attempt the Overthrow of our English Constitution) that

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to the Relate of the Scepter that the matural Monfrers, who, finds they stall draw can to deftroy the Rights of the Grown, ought by no means to finate in the Protection it gives. And, may the Sovie can Almighty Being, whole Ministers thanks are, and whose Authority they have, dispel all those infernal Blows, and pestilential Influences, which hover over, and storesten this Land with Destruction. May He, who best is able to term the Magness of the People, unite the Hearts of all time Englishmen in unseigned Loyalty, and a vigorous Opposition to all Rebals what foever!



